

# DAILY INDEPENDENT.

COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 1899

FREE SPEECH NOT TREASON.

The American People do not Approve of McKinley's "Benevolent Assimilation."

President McKinley wanted the Filipinos so ardently that he paid Spain \$20,000,000 for them. His purpose was, as he himself assured the world by a proclamation, benevolently to assimilate them. Of course he could do nothing else, because there is a provision in the statutes of the United States against making them or any body else slaves. Benevolent assimilation in effect takes the form of butchery. A dead Filipino is a benevolently assimilated Filipino.

There are fellow citizens of William McKinley who do not like the situation, and have no hesitancy in making their opinion public. We are assured that the cabinet are seriously considering what in the old Roman and imperial days was called lese majesty. We are assured further that what the President has decided to do with the people who oppose is not yet known, but it will not be surprising if a warning in the shape of a message will remind free critics that there is a serious law against treason which will be enforced if there is any further attempt to tamper with the men at the front. Free discussion of William McKinley's use of American millions to purchase brown men at the antipodes is described as "tampering with the men at the front." We may feel reasonably sure that the President, sworn as he is to support the constitution, hoping, as he does that he may be re-elected Chief Magistrate a year hence, will not be unmindful of certain provisions in the law. One is that Congress shall pass no law abridging free speech, another is a lucid definition of treason, which shall consist only of levying war against the United States or of adhering to her enemies, giving them aid and comfort. Incidentally, there are other provisions that the President must observe. He cannot clap citizens of the United States who do not agree with him into Fort Lafayette or any other stronghold of the United States, but he must proceed, unless he suspend the writ of habeas corpus, in due accordance with the law. No conviction for treason can be had unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, and it will hardly be contended that a declaration that it was a monstrous misdeed to pay \$20,000,000 for 10,000,000 of people and use them for targets is a treasonable act.

Criticism of President McKinley is not treason. It is not even a statutory offense for while at common law it is an offense to libel the Government constitutional systems have ignored this provision as inconsistent with the genius of free institutions. Mr. McKinley is shrewder than John Adams who served but a single term as Chief Magistrate. The initial triumph of Democracy in the Republic grew out of the tyrannous absurdity of the federalists of John Adams' time, who insisted upon the passage and the rigorous enforcement of drastic alien and sedition laws, since then it has not been popular to talk as McKinley's friends are now talking. If the administration should assume that the citizen of the United States who will not dumbly assent to all that is going forward in the Philippines shall be subject to harsh treatment there will be such benevolent assimilation of the McKinley administration next year as will destroy it. McKinley will be spared further worry about expansion and imperialism. For him the rainy season will set in with a vengeance, and instead of dining with comfort upon such a draft of fishes as fell to

## The Non-Irritating

### Cathartic

Easy to take, easy to operate—

### Hood's Pills

him in 1896 he will be doomed to a diet of embalmed beef which he permitted to be fed to the soldiers and who no longer relish the task McKinley sets for them in the distant seas.

McKinley's advisers may make up their minds that the American citizen is bound to avail himself in mighty volume of his fundamental privilege of free speech before the Major's work of benevolent assimilation of the Krag-Jorgenson kind is fully consummated in the Philippines. —Chicago Chronicle.

#### Scientific Jottings.

A task which has been undertaken in the interest of commerce was begun by the voyage of whalers to the Arctic ocean, to test the Arctic currents. The effort to secure facts about the current and of the existence of a circular polar current was inaugurated by the Geographical Society of Philadelphia, backed by the United States Government. Fifty patent casks of a peculiar make have been constructed in San Francisco and will be sent out in the United States revenue-cutter Bear and vessels of the whaling fleet. They will be distributed in different parts of the ocean and will be picked up by vessels which pass them later. It is thus hoped to determine the currents of the Arctic and the theory of an open current around the pole from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

The London Daily News says that Dr. F. Moreno, the commissioner of the Argentine Republic, now in England in connection with the arbitration over the boundary dispute with Chile, has brought with him to London a piece of the skin of the mysterious quadruped which is said to exist in the interior of the Territory of Santa Cruz in Patagonia. According to the reports of the Indians, it is a strange creature, with long claws and a terrifying appearance, impossible to kill because it has a body impenetrable alike to firearms and missiles. The piece of skin which Dr. Moreno has fully confirms this description. The animal to which the skin belonged was about the size of a cow. The specimen will shortly be sent to the British Museum, but hopes are entertained that a whole skin, with the skeleton, will before long be obtained for the museum since this is one of the main objects of Harry Cavendish's expedition to Patagonia.

## The Omaha Automatic

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## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

There are 17 metals more valuable than gold.

A man walking day and night without resting would take 428 days to journey round the world.

More newspapers are printed in the United States than in England, France and Germany combined.

Queen Victoria has seen every throne in the world vacated at least once, and some of them several times.

The largest building is the Coliseum at Rome. It is 615 feet in greatest diameter and 120 feet high.

The work performed by the human body in a day, in circulating the blood, breathing and other involuntary processes, is equal to that of 22 horse-power for one minute.

The largest loaves of bread baked in the world are those of France and Italy. The "pip" bread of Italy is baked in loaves two or three feet long; while in France the loaves are made in the shape of very long rolls, four or five feet in length and in many cases even six feet.

Remarkable Discovery of a Bank Note.—Mrs. James Blaylock, provision dealer, Howard street, Blackpool, recently purchased a box of onions from a wholesale dealer named Wilson, and whilst examining the contents of the box she found a piece of paper indorsed with a foreign name. The paper was taken to a local bank, and there identified as a Portuguese bank note, which has since been cashed for £86.

The negro baby, when it comes into the world, presents a delicate pink color; the second day it is blue; ten days afterward it is the color of tanned leather; and at 15 days it is chocolate color. The coloring matter which lies between the layers of the epidermis is semifluid, or in the form of fine granulations; in the Indian it is red, and in the Mongolian yellow. It is influenced not only by sun and by climate, but by certain maladies, and the negro changes in tint just as the white person does.

## GOLD TEETH NOT ALL GOLD.

They Are Often Only Removable Shells, Which Are Worn to Make a Show.

"I'd hate to pay that woman's dentist bills," said a business man to a friend on a South side L train the other day. Across the aisle from the man was a woman who showed enough gold every time she opened her mouth to make a man want to leave home and try his fortunes in the Klondike. Two of her upper teeth had been replaced by pieces of burnished metal, and one of her lower teeth also had a 22 carat sheen about it. Her companion had only one gold tooth, but she kept it doing the work of three by a constant smile, says a Chicago paper.

"That's another case of the old adage, 'All that glitters is not gold,'" said the business man's friend. "One of the latest dental novelties makes gold teeth possible to anyone at a small cost and without even sacrificing a healthy incisor to make room for the metal. For a quarter you can get a shell that can be stuck over any front tooth and with an excuse to smile you can present a regular gold mine to the astonished public. Actresses first affected the gold tooth, and then the Yankee man got an idea. In a short time there was an epidemic of gold teeth. The novelty man came out with his plated shells and sold them like hot cakes. No one but the dentist has any kick against the imitation gold tooth, and as a dazzler it is hard to beat. That woman's teeth may be the real stuff, but I believe she can slip them off when she wants to and get them plated when they get tarnished."

#### His Tomb Tells the Story.

A good many of us owe more than we are grateful for to a man who died in 1318, so many hundred years ago that one is afraid to count. The man is Salvino Arnot, who is stated to be the inventor of spectacles. On his tomb there is this epitaph: "Here lies Salvino Arnot de Armiti, of Florence, the inventor of spectacles. May God pardon his sins."

#### Leaves Fifty Feet by Twelve.

The largest leaves in the world are said to be those of the Inaj palm, which grows on the banks of the Amazon. They reach a length of from 30 to 50 feet and are 10 to 12 feet in breadth.

# The Summer Of 1899

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